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## Tasty treats



JOSEPH BURRO/SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

Children were invited to Jarvis Street Cafe and Pastries on Saturday to decorate cupcakes for Valentine's Day. From left, Madeline Scott, Leah Bais, Tegan Bais and Fiona Di made some tasty treats with Minnie Mouse.



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# Niagara natives search for happiness

SARAH FERGUSON  
Fort Erie Times

Two Niagara natives have set out on a quest to find the answer to an important question.

They wanted to know what makes women happy.

Lindsey Middleton, from Fort Erie, and Niagara-on-the-Lake's Cornelia Audrey headed off on a 10-country adventure last November with the purpose of meeting women from different cultures to ask what inspires happiness in them.

Over the course of four months, they spoke with women of all ages from different cultures and recorded the answers using an iPhone camera. Their stops included Hong Kong, Thailand, Malaysia, Australia, and New Zealand.

"Our first interviews, we were really shy about it. We didn't know how to break the ice," Audrey said.

They asked women about what happiness means to them, what inspires them and whether or not happiness is a choice.

"It was interesting because we were able to interview women from all walks of life. We asked people who come from poverty and we asked people who don't come from poverty about what makes them happy. It was different," One woman who was left a pro-

found impression on Audrey was from Vietnam.

"Her husband had lost his leg in the war but she was so happy and thankful for the things they had; they raised a pig in the backyard, her husband was healthy and her child was in school."

The pair agree the experience was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that has changed the way they view life.

"We ended up talking to people we wouldn't normally interact with. There was one lady from Singapore that affected us. She was our hostel custodian. She saw us interviewing people and she became interested in what we were doing," Middleton said.

"This woman had a heart-breaking life and she moved to Singapore, which is an expensive place to live, so she could help her son live his dream. It made her so happy that it brought her to tears talking about it."

Audrey and Middleton interviewed close to 60 women and the result became an online web series called *HappyHer*, which is available to watch on YouTube.

The first season features 11 episodes that are 10 minutes in length. A new episode is released once a month and the next episode that will be released on Feb. 20 will feature women from across Niagara.

Through the process of travelling and filming the project, Audrey said she learned happiness is in "the simple pleasures."

"The common thread is friendship and community. For myself, if I don't have community than I am not happy."

Music, dancing and art are all things that also makes Audrey happy.

"Turning on the music and dancing around the house, sometimes I think there is nothing better," she said.

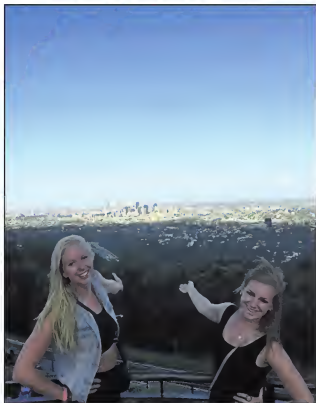
Middleton is "still discovering" what makes her happy.

"That's why I love this project. I am constantly changing and it's exciting to hear what other people have to say and just learn. I don't know if I can pin point any one thing for me."

Middleton and Audrey, who both studied theatre at the University of Toronto and Sheridan College and currently reside in Toronto, said they want to continue to explore what makes women happy during season two of *HappyHer*. They are raising funds to travel abroad and volunteer for an organization that has yet to be decided. All of the proceeds raised will go toward the charity Audrey and Middleton will support.

For more information about the series visit [www.happyhertheries.com](http://www.happyhertheries.com)

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca



SUBMITTED PHOTO/SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

Lindsey Middleton, of Fort Erie, and Niagara-on-the-Lake's Cornelia Audrey (left) headed off on a 10-country adventure last November with the purpose of meeting women from different cultures to ask what inspires happiness in them. They are pictured here in Australia.

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# Niagara Nature Tours host Owl Prowls

The Daytime Owl Prowl returns this weekend.

Carla Carlson, owner of Niagara Nature Tours, says Niagara Nature Tours will be conducting their fourth annual owl prowls Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 20 and 21 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"We have worked very hard to find the locations of wild owls for us to see, and are hoping to see three to four native species this year," she said.

The owls are found from Niagara West through to Port Erie.

For the very first Owl Prowl in 1996, 21 people signed up. "We saw four species and seven owls in total, which is fabulous because of how secretive they are. Since we were able to start conducting them again in 2013, at least 327 people have seen five to six species and on one memorable day, 13 individual owls. In the past we have seen Eastern Screech, Northern Saw-whet, Snowy, Long-eared, Short-eared and a Great Horned Owl on her

nest"

Riding in a motor coach with a washroom and comfortable seats, the group will be escorted by Marcie Jackson from Fort Erie, an internationally recognized local birder explaining about Niagara's owls. Entertaining participants with owl songs, facts, and quizzes, there are draws and owl related prizes that Carlson has collected throughout the year.

There will also be a draw for four people to go to Vineland's Owl Foundation during their annual Donor Tours in the autumn. There will be a break for lunch at the Smokin' Buddha and Canal-side Restaurants in Port Colborne.

"We are giving people a choice of which restaurant to go to as the Smokin' Buddha is famous for its spicy, exotic food," Carlson said.

A lot of work goes into organizing an owl prowls and many hours over months are put in ahead of time scouting for the owls, so that on the day of the prowls, there is a

good chance at actual sightings, she said.

And this time of year is a good time to see the owls, Carlson added. The leaves are off the trees, the birds are out flying and hunting and some are sitting in nest boxes. "If we are lucky we'll see a great horned owl sitting on her nest. It's the right time of the year as believe it or not they've already bred and laid their eggs."

Fun for both young and old alike, there is limited walking so it is a very accessible outing. Seniors with walkers have attended in the past, and anyone with a wheelchair accessible vehicle is welcome to follow the bus, and join the tour at each stop.

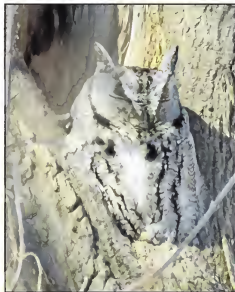
"We have Snowies and Short-eared Owls which fly at dusk, so we don't want to miss them," Carlson said.

Short-eared Owl Status: Special Concern "Special Concern" means the species lives in the wild in Ontario, is not endangered or threatened, but may become

threatened or endangered due to a combination of biological characteristics and identified threats.

Date added to the Species at Risk in Ontario List: The Short-eared Owl was already assessed as a species of special concern when the Endangered Species Act took effect in 2008. "Loss and alteration of habitat, especially marshes and grasslands in southern Ontario that were formerly heavily used by wintering owls constitute the primary factors affecting Short-eared Owl populations. The disappearance of these habitats is mainly attributable to wetland drainage, urban development and increasing farm activity."

Registration for the owl prowls have started and space is limited. For more information call 905-562-3746 or 1-888-889-8296 or visit [www.niagaranaturetours.ca](http://www.niagaranaturetours.ca).



WAYNE ALLEN/SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

A Grey Screech Owl.

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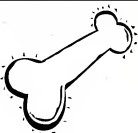
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ANNIE PASQUARIELLO/SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

Fort Erie native Lezlie Harper discussed the importance of Black History Month during a presentation at the Fort Erie Public Library last Wednesday evening.

## Celebrate Niagara's rich heritage during Black History Month

**ANNIE PASQUARIELLO**  
Special to the Fort Erie Times

While many people are aware of Black History Month, not many realize the amount of rich black history in Fort Erie.

Lezlie Harper of Niagara Bound Tours spoke at the Fort Erie Public Library last Wednesday evening to share that knowledge, along with personal stories to celebrate Black History Month and its Niagara connection.

People always ask Harper if Black History Month is still needed, to which Harper replies, "Yes we do. Until the day comes when people realize the Underground Railroad is not actual tunnels."

The Underground Railroad was network of people who hid and guided freedom seekers to Canada.

She explains it is about fighting social injustices and also clears up any misinformation about black history. Her hope is that others will do the same and spread the knowledge.

"We all want to know where we came from. Children should know the legacy they should be living up to," she says. "I have a sense of pride and gratitude to my family because I know what they gave up and what they went through."

Harper's ancestors were slaves of Kentucky and settled in Fort Erie in

1851. Her great-grandfather fought in the United States Civil War and married Lavinia Taylor to which Lavinia Street is named after.

Not only is a street a part of Fort Erie's black history, but so is Freedom Park along the Niagara River and Little Africa (Miller's Bay) marked by a Niagara Freedom Trail plaque.

One site that many believe to be a substantial piece of black history in Fort Erie is Bertie Hall, which it should not be considered. This is a misconception that it was used as a safe house. Harper says although it may have been a crossing point for many slaves, it was never used as a safe house for them.

Harper's tours cover Fort Erie to Niagara-on-the-Lake and she showcases unknown facts and discoveries along the way.

"Just out of a meeting that happened in Fort Erie, the civil rights movement started," she says. "Civil rights are not just for blacks, but everyone and it happened here."

Although Harper says she feels racism is not gone, she is proud to tell her story and to be a descendant of a slave.

"We are the strongest - we survived."

For more information on Niagara Bound Tours and Niagara's Freedom Trail, please visit [www.niagara-boundtours.com](http://www.niagara-boundtours.com)



SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

Forty-five people attended a community workshop at the Fort Erie Leisureplex to share their input on the development of a waterfront strategy for Fort Erie's shoreline.

## Community members share input to help develop waterfront strategy

SARAH FERGUSON  
Fort Erie Times

The Town of Fort Erie is developing its vision for the future of Fort Erie's waterfront property and the public has been asked to help.

Forty-five people attended the first of three community workshops held last Tuesday at the Fort Erie Leisureplex to gather input about the Fort Erie Waterfront Strategy. The meeting was facilitated by The Planning Partnership, the consulting firm hired by the Town to develop the waterfront strategy. The strategy is also being developed with help from a community focus group, consisting of residents and council representatives.

Once it is completed, Donna Hinde, a partner with The Planning Part-

nership, said the waterfront strategy will identify opportunities to improve parks, town-owned land and destinations situated on the 45 kilometres of waterfront along the Lake Erie and Niagara River shoreline for fishing, boating and bird watching.

The strategy will enhance public access, identify potential for future acquisition of lands and protect the shoreline's natural environment.

Dave Heyworth, the Town's land use policy manager, said he was pleased with the turnout to the public workshop.

"We had a staff session in the morning and a second session held with our community focus group that has been selected, and now we're gathering input from the public," he said.

Heyworth said the goal of the meeting was "to help identify pillars," or the key principles to help shape the development of the waterfront strategy.

The strategy will be completed in four stages: building a foundation for the strategy, analyzing opportunities and possibilities, producing a draft waterfront strategy, finalizing the strategy and creating an action plan to execute it.

A second community workshop is planned for April and a third one will be held in June.

For more information about the waterfront strategy or to provide comments call Heyworth at 905-871-1600 ext. 2504 or e-mail him at dheyworth@forterie.on.ca.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca



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The  
**Fort Erie Times**

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## Point of View

### Summer Games good goal for Niagara

While Niagara was hosting the water events for the Pan Am Games last summer, Toronto 2015 Games chairman David Peterson mused about Toronto — and parts of Ontario, including Niagara — bidding to host the 2028 Summer Olympics.

At the time, we supported his call as something at the very least worth pursuing, and possibly as something that would have great long-term benefit for Niagara.

It might lead to improvements at the Henley Island rowing facility and the paddling centre on the Welland recreational canal. Other events would probably be held elsewhere.

Of course, history shows that hosting the Olympics brings with it an enormous price tag that can cripple an economy and leave a country with world-class sports facilities it has little use for once the two-week party is over.

People like Peterson are hard-wired to dream big. But would he have been so enthusiastic if he was still premier of Ontario

and on the hook for the bill?

Now comes word that a much more realistic dream could be within reach — for Niagara to host the 2021 Canada Summer Games.

If the bid was made and it was successful, the rewards would still be great. Proponents estimate the Games could pump as much as \$100 million into the Niagara economy, through investments and spending by visitors.

The risk, though, would be only a fraction of that the Olympics would bring.

Nothing is for certain yet. While Ontario has been awarded the right to host the 16-day event, the process for regions or municipalities to bid for them has only just begun.

The Niagara Sport Commission, which is leading the effort, is still feeling out municipalities across the region for support.

Commission CEO Bram Cotton said last week “my hope is that we can get the mayors and the regional politicians to stand

up and say, ‘You know what, we want the Games. It’s our time.’”

St. Catharines Mayor Walter Senczik estimated it would cost \$30 million to host the 2021 Games, and that includes funding from the provincial and federal governments.

Throw in sponsorships and contributions and the cost to Niagara would appear to be quite reasonable.

The prize would be not only the revenue the host community would receive, but also the improved facilities that would remain after the athletes leave.

At the national level, sports like baseball, cycling, soccer and track and field all require top-grade fields with fan-friendly seating areas. At first glance, that alone makes the Games a prize worth chasing. And the Henley and Welland water sites would probably still receive upgrades.

It’s still early and maybe further investigation will reveal this isn’t such a promising proposition. But from where we sit now, we say go for it, Niagara.

## Do you remember?

Did you remember your sweetie on Valentine’s Day? So did Pat Vermooy who wrote in to identify the children in last week’s Do You Remember photo. They were left to right — Joey Fletcher and Pat’s daughter Leslie Vermooy. Both children were in Mrs. Angie Anderson’s junior kindergarten class at Our Lady of Victory Junior School in 1981. Strike up the band!

We have two names written on the back of this photo: Joe Arno and Ralph Marino. Can you tell us “whose who” or the names of any of the other children? If so, please call the Fort Erie Historical Museum at 905-894-5332 or e-mail us [museum@forterieon.ca](mailto:museum@forterieon.ca).



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# Learn more about Ontario songbirds

I once witnessed an unusual bird performance deep in both Willoughby Marsh and Marcy Woods while with naturalist Ernie Giles, naturalist Deb Mignus and myself.

Henry David Thoreau witnessed the same performance that we saw. His entry in his journal, dated June 7, 1853, provided then some of the first observations of the unusual antics of the ovenbird. He wrote the following, "...runs from her covered nest so close to the ground under the lowest twigs and leaves, like a mouse, that I can't get a fair view of her. She does not fly at all. Is it to attract me, or partly to protect herself?" It was deep in



Willoughby Marsh that we saw this distinctive trait. Nature writer Ed Teale tells us that this performance of the ovenbird is one of innumerable distraction displays - such as the killdeer's broken wing diversory performance that birds employ to draw away danger from the vicinity of their nests.

Enjoy bird watching in 2016. My huge book - The Audubon Society Encyclopedia of North American Birds - says that

more than 200 species of North American birds utilize some form of feigning to divert attention to themselves and away from their eggs and young in times of peril. They make great mothers.

My interest in this subject has me share the following: A wood thrush on one occasion was observed holding the head of a blacksnake entering for its nest by engaging in a broken-wing display on a low lying branch. We are told loons will display this same injured wing show if their nest.

And the occupants are in danger. Have you seen this? Some small birds flutter like butterflies in front of a predator. I read about "false feeding"

where some warblers, woodpeckers and killdeer have been seen carrying food to places where their nests were not while a predator observed them.

The same performance that we saw. His entry in his journal, dated June 7, 1853, provided then some of the first observations of the unusual antics of the ovenbird. He wrote the following, "...runs from her covered nest so close to the ground under the lowest twigs and leaves, like a mouse, that I can't get a fair view of her. She does not fly at all. Is it to attract me, or partly to protect herself?" It was deep in Willoughby Marsh that we saw this distinctive trait.

Late nature writer Ed Teale tells us that this



An Ovenbird and nest in Willoughby Marsh.

performance of the ovenbird is one of innumerable distraction displays - such as the killdeer's broken wing diversory performance that birds employ to draw away danger from the vicinity of their nests.

Become more interested in Ontario songbirds this year. Why not?

Earl Plato is a resident of Fort Erie, local historian and nature lover.

## Artist and sculptor Larry Rosnuck to visit Fort Erie Public Library

The Fort Erie Public Library has always sought to encourage local and area artists, and give them an opportunity to share their ideas and their work with the community.

On Wednesday, Feb. 24, beginning at 7 p.m., Port Colborne sculptor and artist Larry Rosnuck will be showing slides of his work, talking about what he does, and telling the stories of his art and his travels. There is no charge, and the public is invited to attend.

Currently, the small display case at the Centennial branch of the library has two pieces by Rosnuck. An Art Deco fish sculpture made of flame cut steel, and a silk screen depiction of a fish



on the beach demonstrate the versatility of Rosnuck's methods and talent.

Rosnuck was born in Welland in 1947, started painting shortly before he graduated from Queen's University with a B.Sc. Engineering degree in Geophysics, and made extended trips to Europe, where he painted and exhibited his art. Rosnuck now focuses on outdoor and public sculpture, with an emphasis on environmental concerns.

Stories for twos and

threes at the Stevensville branch on Monday, Feb. 22, and on Wednesday, Feb. 24 at the Crystal Ridge branch provide early literacy skills for ages 1½ and up that make it easier for children to read.

Family Time, a partnership with the Parenting and Family Literacy Centre, will welcome children and their caregivers from birth up, on Tuesday morning, Feb. 23 at the Centennial branch of the library. Each of these programs offers time for reading, talking, singing, sharing, playing and making crafts, and time for children and parents to practice social skills.

Knitters from the Bowen Road Women's Institute meet at the library to pass along their

craft and skills to others. If you are between the ages of 8 and 14, head to the Crystal Ridge branch of the library on Thursday evenings, starting at 6:30 p.m. If you are 15 or over, the Centennial branch on Tuesday evenings is the place for you to learn to knit with patient, encouraging mentors, and all equipment provided.

It is tax time again. The first of five free Community Volunteer Income Tax Program clinics will be held at the Crystal Ridge branch of the library on Monday, Feb. 29. If your tax situation is simple and your income is below a certain amount, a trained volunteer will prepare your tax return for you while you wait. You must make an appointment by calling



Port Colborne sculptor and artist Larry Rosnuck will visit the Fort Erie Public Library next Wednesday.

or visiting any branch of the library ahead of time. There is no charge for this important service.

Find out about all these and many more programs, plus movies,

music and books on our website, [www.fepi.ca](http://www.fepi.ca).

Amy Roebuck is the community services coordinator at the Fort Erie Public Library.

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## BANK LOCAL

A look back at the week in Niagara



## OUR NIAGARA



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## Family Day in Our Niagara



Sandy Ferko, left, of Thorold helps granddaughter Alyson Bellows, 3, of Niagara Falls with a craft at Family Day activities at the Welland Health and Wellness Complex.

Bernd Panko/Welland Tribune/Postmedia Network



Alexa Dryce, 8, of St. Catharines plays table tennis during at Family Day activities at the Welland Health and Wellness Complex.

Bernd Panko/Welland Tribune/Postmedia Network



Lindsay Pattista-Flannery of Barrie gives daughter Grace, 4, a helping hand during at Family Day free skate at Vale Health and Wellness Centre.

Bernd Panko/Welland Tribune/Postmedia Network



Boh Hayley Fikemo, 16, of Welland and her flying suzer fly through the air after going over a bungee jumping at Chippawa Park.

Bernd Panko/Welland Tribune/Postmedia Network



Erin Sander, of Pace Paint by Erin, transforms Bridget Stark into a butterfly at the Boys and Girls Club.

Keynote: Panko/Welland Tribune/Postmedia Network



Six-year-old Matthew Blomaw, of Ridgeway, spent Family Day bouncing around at the Boys and Girls Club. The club held a Family Day fundraiser in partnership with Niagara Industries, which drew more than 300 people within the first hour of the four-hour event.

Keynote: Panko/Welland Tribune/Postmedia Network

## COMING UP

**coldest**  
\*night  
OF THE YEAR

**Saturday February 20<sup>th</sup>**

## St. Catharines

**Market Square**

**Registration: 4:15pm**

**Walk Begins: 5:15pm**

**Contact:**

**Patricia Brack**

**905.984.5310 ext 515**

**START ME UP**  
NIAGARA  
Working Together - Moving Forward

## Niagara Falls

**St. Paul High School**

**Registration: 4:00pm**

**Walk Begins: 5:15pm**

**Contact:**

**Katie Cuvillo**

**905.357.5121 ext 33**

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# Kiddoodle Kids Art Classes set to begin in March

Nothing could be more romantic than a really freezing cold Valentine. Cuddly blankets, a comfy couch, a glass of red wine and a warming fire. What could be better than that?

Well, thanks to the horrible weather conditions this past weekend, the *Tell Me The Truth About Love Cabaret Show* will be cancelled. And all of us romantics had to celebrate Saint Valentine on said couch. Please stay tuned for the release of a new date for the show. Thank you for understanding.

A couple of classes are starting soon such as the Kiddoodle Kids Art Classes from March 1 to April 12, from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The class is designed for kids between six and 12 years old. The 6-week class will cost \$75 with all material included.

Melani Pyke is inviting beginner and intermediate painters to an Acrylic Class for adults starting



on Thursday, Feb 18 until March 24 from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

The six-week class costs \$90 all materials included. Please e-mail [feac.classes@gmail.com](mailto:feac.classes@gmail.com) for more info to all art related classes and to register.

The Kids Music and Yoga Class will start its second session on Saturday, February 27 and run until March 26, from 11:15 a.m. to noon. Get familiar with an assortment of different instruments incorporated in song and movement that will get the musical rhythm with in you going. The program includes a songbook and an instrument to keep and is designed for children

newborn to four years for \$90. Please contact Carly at [carlymanley@gmail.com](mailto:carlymanley@gmail.com) or check out [www.carlymanley.com](http://www.carlymanley.com) to enroll and for more information.

Just two more sleeps until we get to celebrate with *IllScarlet* (Feb. 20, doors open at 8 p.m.). Ten years after the release of their EP *Epidemic* and they are still rocking out here and there. Friends from *The Maymies* and Theatre Crisp will get you into party mode with their musical energy. Tickets are still available at *Brimstone Brewing Company* and *Ticketscene.ca* for only \$17 (\$20 at the door).

I would like to leave you with a few quick announcements until next time.

If you are a fan of Neil Young, come down to the Brewery on Feb. 27 at around 8 p.m. Musical due Ed and Mike will perform music by this Canadian icon.

Do you have a great chili recipe you would like to enter into the annual Fire and Brimstone Chili cook-off on Feb. 28? Sample your competition's efforts and a delicious pint for only \$15. All proceeds go to the Canadian Lyme Disease Foundation.

Please welcome Willa on March 19 all the way from Vancouver. Her eminent voice paired with electronic pop is creating a hint of darkness which is very in trending. Her music video is on heavy rotation as the only independent artist on Much Music. As a respected vocalist, performer, songwriter and collaborator, Willa performed at the Canada Winter Games. Her new tune "Dreamer" was produced by JUNO nominated musician Ryan Guldmond of Mother Mother. Get ready, Willa aka Ali Milner is coming.

On May 8 (great Mother's Day present), we will welcome

Sloan—one of the most iconic Canadian bands—to the stage at The Bell Tower Sanctuary. Please stay tuned for more info. Tickets are on sale now and are going fast.

Sean McCann of Great Big Sea is performing at The Sanctuary—Centre for the Arts on June 17. Tickets will go on sale

soon.

For more information about what is going on at The Sanctuary—Centre for the Arts visit [www.the-sanctuariesarts.org](http://www.the-sanctuariesarts.org) or like us on Facebook.

Nadine Pizzicarella is the events coordinator for the Sanctuary Centre for the Arts.

## ARTEMIS

### RESTAURANT

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## Health Corner

### Wonders of Dental Sedation & Sleep Dentistry

One of the main reasons why people avoid dentists is fear of or anxiety in the dental office. Some people do not tell us that they are fearful of dental treatments and usually find other excuses to avoid a dental professional.

However, ignoring the need to see a dentist due to fear is not the best way to handle the fear. I realized that fear is real and sometimes it is something you cannot do anything about. To people with dental anxiety, there is nothing that can convince otherwise.

Truly, modern dentistry has come a long way. We have now so many technologies and techniques and materials to help ease the pain. Dentists now use anesthetics that are so effective. Dentist now have different techniques to ease the fear of the drill such as air abrasion or laser.

But, with my experience, the best fear breaker is dental sedation or sleep dentistry. Now many dentists offer from nitrous oxide (laughing gas) to IV Sedation, our office also



Dr. John Inigo

offers sleep dentistry. My favorite procedures are for those who are under IV sedation for their dental treatment: from simple hygiene appointments, filling, root canals, or even surgeries. In many of those people do not remember most of the

procedures thanks to the wonderful sedative drugs many dentists can offer to those in need.

However, I find that the easiest way to handle the fear is to make sure you do everything you can to reduce the need to see a dentist in the first place. How? By going to a dental office often and regularly, you can effectively lower the chance of seeing us other than a 5-minute chat in hygienists' chair. Most people enjoy dental hygiene appointments and the chat chat with dentists.

Dr. John Inigo is a practicing general dentist in Fort Erie and Ridgeway Ontario. He can be reached at [905.871.2903](tel:905.871.2903) or [905.894.5555](tel:905.894.5555). For further information and discussion, please visit his office at [www.inigodentistry.com](http://www.inigodentistry.com)

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# THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE

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## NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION AND PUBLIC MEETING 4152 ERIE ROAD

(BAY BEACH PARKING LOT NORTH/EAST CORNER OF ERIE AND SCHOOLEY ROAD)

### TOWN INITIATED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

APPLICATION 350309-0412

DATE: MARCH 7, 2016

TIME: 6:00 PM

LOCATION: MUNICIPAL TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS



- WHAT WILL THIS AMENDMENT CHANGE:**
- To permit apartments subject to the provisions of the Residential Multiple RM2 Zone in addition to the current commercial uses permitted in the General Commercial C2 Zone.
  - To permit the following special provisions in the RM2 Zone: maximum building height 4 stories, minimum lot area 40m<sup>2</sup> per unit, exterior side yard setback from Erie Road 0 m, front yard setback from Schooley Road 0 metres, rear yard setback from Eastwood Avenue 0 metres roof slope 1 metre in height to every 5 metre in depth, parking permitted in side yard only behind the rear face of building, interior side yard setback 7.5 metres from northerly residential zone, minimum distance from internal driving lane 1.5 m from residential, minimum landscaped area 10%, and no minimum lot coverage requirement.
  - To permit block and street townhouses subject to the provisions of the Residential Multiple RM1 Zone in addition to the current commercial uses permitted in the General Commercial C2 Zone.
  - To permit the following special provisions in the RM1 Zone: maximum building height 3 stories fronting on Erie Road and 2.5 stories on Eastwood Avenue, 0m setback from Erie Road, Schooley Road and Eastwood Avenue, setback of 3 metres from the residential zone and parking and garages including access to be located in the rear yard only for units fronting onto Erie Road, a setback of 4.5 m to dwelling and 6.0 metres to the garage, a rear yard setback of 7.5 metres and a side yard setback of 3 metres for units fronting onto Eastwood Avenue, a maximum density 60 units per hectare, planting strip 0m, privacy area 3m or by way of open air balcony, distance from building to internal driveway 0m, minimum distance from end walls and rear wall 6m, roof slope 1 metre in height to every 5 metre in depth, and maximum lot coverage 70% for entire site.
  - To permit the following special provision for the General Commercial C2 Zone: townhouses

height 4 stories, 0 metre exterior side yard setback from Erie Road, 0 metre front yard setback from Schooley Road and 0 metre rear yard setback from Eastwood Avenue, no lot coverage requirement, landscape coverage requirement of 10%, and interior side setback of 7.5 metres from northerly residential zone.

- To permit the following special provisions for General provisions for commercial zones: residential open space to be provided by open air balconies, dwelling units shall be permitted to occupy a maximum of 49% of the ground floor area of buildings provided no part of such dwelling unit, except for the entranceway has frontage onto a public street.

### GETTING MORE INFORMATION

Input on the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the public meeting or by making a written submission to the Town. Please note that unless you do one of the above now, you may not be able to appeal the decision later.

A copy of the Information Report will be available to the public by 5:00 PM on March 2, 2016. The information report will be available in the Council agenda portion of the Town's Web Site: [www.town.forterie.on.ca](http://www.town.forterie.on.ca) or from the Community and Development Services Department.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Kira Dutch, MCP, RPP, CNU-A, Manager of Development Approvals  
Community and Development Services Department,  
Town Hall, 1 Municipal Centre Drive,  
Fort Erie, Ontario L2A 2S6  
905-871-1600, ext. 2502  
Or by e-mailing your comments to: [kdutch@town.forterie.on.ca](mailto:kdutch@town.forterie.on.ca)

### PROVIDING YOUR COMMENTS OR REQUESTING NOTICE OF DECISION

To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision of the Zoning By-law Amendment, please send a letter c/o the Town Clerk Laura Bubanko, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6 or an email to [lbubanko@town.forterie.on.ca](mailto:lbubanko@town.forterie.on.ca)

### PLANNING ACT LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Town of Fort Erie has not yet made a decision regarding this application. After considering any written comments and the comments from the public meeting, a Recommendation Report will be prepared for a future Council-in-Committee meeting.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie in respect of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment before the By-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Town of Fort Erie to the Ontario Municipal Board.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie in respect of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment before the By-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board, unless in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

If you wish to be notified of the adoption of the Zoning By-law Amendment, you must make a written request to Laura Bubanko, Town Clerk and such request should include the name and address to which such notice should be sent.

## THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING Food Trucks (Refreshment Vehicles)

Recently there has been an increased interest in having food trucks (refreshment vehicles) at a number of venues and special events throughout the Town. Therefore, the Town of Fort Erie is considering expanding its business licence to allow more food trucks to operate throughout the Town.

### HAVE YOUR SAY

Input on any proposed business licence changes is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the public meeting or by making a written submission to the Town.

### PUBLIC MEETING

Date: Monday, Feb. 22, 2016

Time: 6 p.m.

Place: Council Chambers, Town Hall, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie

### WRITTEN SUBMISSION

To provide input in writing, please send a letter c/o Town Clerk Laura Bubanko, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6.

### MORE INFORMATION

An information report (CS-26-2015) regarding a review of Business Licence By-law No. 217-05 - Refreshment Vehicles (December 7, 2015) can be found at [forterie.on.ca](http://forterie.on.ca). For more information, please contact Laura Bubanko, Town Clerk at 905-871-1600 ext. 2211 or email [lbubanko@forterie.on.ca](mailto:lbubanko@forterie.on.ca).

Dated at Fort Erie, Ontario this 18<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016.

# THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE

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## SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY ON A BOARD OR COMMITTEE

Here is another opportunity to lend your time and talents to your community. The Town of Fort Erie is served not only by elected officials but by volunteers as well through appointment to its various boards and committees.

The Town is looking to attract people who have an interest in contributing to their community. Vacancies currently exist on the following board and committees:

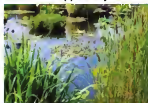
### BUSINESS/SHOPPING

Crystal Beach BIA  
One (1) Vacancy



### PRESERVATION/CONSERVATION

Fort Erie Environmental  
Advisory Committee  
One (1) Vacancy



### HISTORY/CONSERVATION

Museum & Cultural Heritage  
Advisory Committee  
One (1) Vacancy



For more information on the board and committees above, please see the establishing by-laws on the Town's website: [www.forterie.on.ca](http://www.forterie.on.ca) under "Government" – "Boards & Committees" – "Crystal Beach BIA", "Environmental Advisory Committee", "Museum Cultural Advisory Committee."

We look forward to receiving your application by **Wednesday, February 24, 2016 by 4:00 p.m.** Applications are available:

- **On the Town's website [www.forterie.on.ca](http://www.forterie.on.ca) under Public Notices – Board and Committee Vacancies, or from the Clerk's Office.**
- ***Or you can submit a letter setting out relevant background information.***

Submissions will be accepted by the Clerk via:

1. Email: [lbubanko@forterie.on.ca](mailto:lbubanko@forterie.on.ca)
2. Mail: Town of Fort Erie, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, ON L2A 2S6
3. Hand delivery to the Customer Service Desk, Town Hall
4. Fax: 905-871-4022

Cheryl Watson, Legislative Assistant, welcomes enquiries at 905-871-1600 ext. 2212 or email: [cwatson@forterie.on.ca](mailto:cwatson@forterie.on.ca)

*This information is being collected pursuant to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used to select persons for appointments to Town of Fort Erie boards and committees. A public ballot process is used when an election is required to select an appointee. The ballots are public documents.*

Laura Bubanko, Town Clerk, Town of Fort Erie

### \*\* TAX NOTICE \*\*

#### TOWN OF FORT ERIE 2016 INTERIM TAXES FOR ALL PROPERTY CLASSES

**FIRST INSTALLMENT DUE MONDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2016**

For further information regarding payment of taxes, please refer to the back of your tax bill.

**2016 interim tax bills were mailed on February 5, 2016**

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

Monthly payment plans by pre-authorized bank withdrawal are available for accounts with past due taxes and current year taxes. For information contact:

Town of Fort Erie at 905-871-1600

Gillian Corney  
Manager of Revenue & Collections

### ATTENTION ALL MOTORISTS

Residents are reminded that no overnight winter parking is permitted in the Town of Fort Erie between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. from November 1 through March 31 of the following year. The Town's By-law Enforcement Officers will be enforcing Traffic By-law No. 84-2014. **The fine for this offence is \$40.00 and in addition, your vehicle may be towed at your expense.**

# Aero-safe Technologies wins gold supplier award

SARAH FERGUSON  
Fort Erie Times

Aero-safe Technologies employees took a few moments to celebrate Thursday when the Fort Erie-based company was presented with a gold supplier award.

Aero-safe Technologies, established in 1981 by Tony Rodway, received recognition as a gold-level supplier to renowned space hardware manufacturer Com Dev.

The company is one of just 22 recipients of the supplier award this year. Com Dev evaluates its suppliers based on its reliability of service, the strength of its relationship in the community and the quality of products and awards gold, silver and bronze status to the top companies.

A banner that will be hung inside the Pettit Road

facility was presented to the company's 62 employees during a celebration that was also attended by council members and representatives from Com Dev and Fort Erie Secondary School.

"As mayor of the Town of Fort Erie, we are very proud of what you guys, on in this building and we encourage them to expand," Mayor Wayne Redekop said.

The gold supplier award is not just good news for Aero-safe Technologies, it also identifies Fort Erie as a community that is ready and open for business.

"When we talk about industry, growth and prosperity, we are talking about you," Redekop told approximately 75 people that attended the event.

Last May, Aero-safe Technologies and its sister company, Aero-safe Processing, was acquired by Vertex Pre-

cision Manufacturing. General manager Ed Melanson said the company has continued to grow and achieve success.

"Today, this is about you guys (the employees), who see opportunities to do great things," Melanson said.

Stewart Cramer, chief executive officer of Vertex, said Aero-safe Technologies is a "grass roots company," with a number of its employees who were educated in Fort Erie Secondary School's high skills major program.

"Many employees have come from high school to work here," Cramer said. "They have become part of the family."

The award that was received this week is meaningful because it was given "in recognition of our people who are committed to our company," Cramer said.

"It's really something to be proud of amidst all of the changes we have had over the last nine months," he added.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca



SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

Aero-safe Technologies, established in 1981 by Tony Rodway, received recognition as a gold-level supplier to renowned space hardware manufacturer Com Dev. The company was presented with a banner during a presentation held last Thursday.



SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

A number of Aero-safe Technologies employees obtained employment after graduating from Fort Erie Secondary School's High Skills Major program. From left is Dave Deviney, FESS teacher Connie Engels, Oliver Porteus, Keith Miller, Sean Horner, Dave Everett, John Roebuck, Wes Harkins, teacher Paul Bernier and FESS principal Fred Louvis.

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# Volunteering for Leisure Buddy program will 'change a life'

SARAH FERGUSON  
Fort Erie Times

Paul Piscitello is more than just a friend to Jennifer Corsi.

He has become a member of the family.

Jennifer first met Paul in May 2013 when he was hired to work at Rona Hardware through a partnership between Community Living Fort Erie and the local business.

Paul continues to work one morning a week at the hardware store where all of the store's regulars have come to know him well.

"He adds some life to this place. He's a good worker," Don Langdon, the hardware store's owner said.

What began as a chance meeting through Community Living's employment program became so much more for both Paul and Jennifer.

Paul and Jennifer "hit it off so well," Jennifer decided to contact Community Living Fort Erie and began volunteering through the organization's Leisure Buddy Program in July 2014.

Her hope of enjoying leisure activities with Paul outside of work has formed into a lifelong friendship with him thanks to the program.

"It's truly terrific," Jennifer said about her time volunteering with Community Living Fort Erie.

"It's personally rewarding for me. We just do the simple things in life when we're together."

Jennifer spends about an

hour each week with Paul. Together, they have lunch, spend time with family or friends, shop for cookies, laugh and sing or chat while enjoying a cup of coffee.

"He makes me smile. We love to dance. During Community Living Fort Erie's annual fundraiser, we never sat down."

The Leisure Buddy Program gives volunteers a chance to promote inclusion just by spending time with people who are supported by Community Living Fort Erie.

As part of the program, volunteers are matched with people who are supported by the organization.

Volunteers receive a formal orientation and on-site training with staff members. Volunteers can participate in a wide variety of activities with their buddies including events at local legions, visits to the library, workouts at the YMCA and even vacations away.

"It doesn't have to be anything serious, it could just be day-to-day things," Jennifer said.

If anyone has thought about becoming a leisure buddy but may have hesitated in the past, Jennifer said the experience of connecting with a leisure buddy is worthwhile.

"I would say 100 per cent, do it. If you're looking for something to do that will change a life, this is it."

Margaret Fiddler, Community Living Fort Erie's manager of community development, said she has witnessed



SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

Paul Piscitello is more than just a friend to Jennifer Corsi. He's become a member of the family. Piscitello met Corsi through Community Living Fort Erie's employment program. The pair hit it off so well that Corsi decided to spend more time with him so she volunteered for Community Living Fort Erie's Leisure Buddy program.

the difference in Paul since he was matched with his leisure buddy.

"He has made many connections in the community through Jennifer and met so many people he would

not have otherwise," Fiddler said.

Volunteers for Community Living Fort Erie's leisure buddy program are always needed.

"The one-on-one support

that these volunteers provide to the people we support is invaluable," Fiddler said.

"If we can even gain one additional volunteer to the Leisure Buddy Program it could make a significant dif-

ference in someone else's life."

For more information about the Leisure Buddy Program call 905-871-6770.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca



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**SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES**

The Niagara Area Children's Assistance Program recently moved from Jarvis Street to its new location at 151 Gilmore Rd. The not-for-profit organization provides assistance for families in need at Easter, Christmas, Thanksgiving and at back-to-school time. NACAP also sells gently used items at its shop.

## Charity opens its doors at new location

**SARAH FERGUSON**  
Fort Erie Times

The Niagara Area Children's Assistance Program has found a new place to call home.

The non-profit organization that was founded by Fort Erie's Mindy Leveille recently moved from Jarvis Street to its new location at 151 Gilmore Rd.

NACAP originally began as an Easter basket program that helped families in need in Fort Erie, and has flourished into a thriving charitable organization that serves families across Niagara.

pers, Christmas stockings for children and a back-to-school program.

NACAP also sells gently used clothing, housewares and other items at its store. The proceeds raised from the sale of used items are used to keep the lights on, pay the rent and fund free programs.

"We're all volunteers here and we have zero grants," Leveille said.

The not-for-profit's founder is happy to have NACAP open at its new location but the move "was bitter sweet."

"We didn't want to leave," Leveille said. "I loved Jarvis Street but construction happening on the bridge

killed us. We were lucky to make \$2 a day. There just wasn't enough traffic."

NACAP is now accepting donations for its Easter basket program. Items that are needed include frisbees, skipping ropes, kites, chalk, butterfly nets, hula hoops, colouring books, crayons, baskets and chocolates.

Families that need assistance for Easter are asked to register at NACAP from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday until March 2.

For more information about NACAP and how to help call Leveille at 289-322-0357.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca



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FRANKI IKEMAN/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Andy Nikulin from Hotz Environmental Services sorts through items at Niagara Region's new permanent household hazardous waste depot at Humberstone Landfill in Welland.

## New depots for household hazardous waste

FRANKI IKEMAN  
Postmedia Network

Niagara Region has eliminated its household hazardous waste event days by opening a permanent drop-

off depot at Humberstone Landfill in Welland.

The hazardous waste depot is one of two opening this year, the second being a permanent site in Thorold this spring.

The Region is also opening a partial service depot for paint, batteries and propane cylinders in Fort Erie.

Waste management services director Catherine Habermehl said the aim is to

make it convenient for residents to properly and safely dispose of their household hazardous waste.

"Really it's about convenience to the consumer, to the customer," Habermehl said.

She said the region wanted to make sure that no resident had to drive more than 25 kilometres to access a drop-off depot. She also said that the program will increase the hours per year

for residents to dispose of their hazardous waste to more than 5,000, instead of just 117.

CONTINUED > PAGE 28

**Ron Sexsmith**  
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### Incontinence, bladder infections

**Headends of women wrote:** This tea worked! My overactive bladder problem is gone. No more urgent bathroom trips. I now get a good night's sleep. Sue Brown, 67, Ames, IA ■ **The cure is wonderful.** Noticed a difference in four days and total relief in ten days Heather Hochstetler, 70, Petawawa, ON ■ **I was sceptical** to believe a tea would help better all my bladder problems. I was wrong. The tea's medicine made me try it and I found they were true! It does work! Angela Montoya, 46, Naple, DN ■ **The Bladder Control Tea has been a real improvement of my life.** I even had surgery for my incontinence that was unsuccessful. I am happy I have my full confidence back, my bladder is healthy, worry-free activities. Annette Thibault, 72, Montpelier, VT



403 NPI 0004630

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**Angelo Vukic, 45, Calgary, AB**

**#6 Regained virility in three days.** My libido was restored and I was able to have sex with my wife for the first time. One of them is a diabetic and twelfth grade. (Dr. Louis Harold, 72, St. Michaels, QC)

**#6 Waxed like teen for thirty years ago.** My partner said I should have done that to last forever. She is one happy partner again. John Warner, 81, ON



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- **I've been married for thirteen years and never experienced climaxes in the last twelve years – until I took Erosyn!** My new sex life is exciting! What a miracle! Jeanne Adams, 37, American Fork, UT
- **My sexual desire is greater now than it was for thirty years.** It's wonderful to have such ecstatic joy. I've tried others that didn't work. Eve Jonsson, 58, Kinnarut, AZ
- **This rejuvenated energy also has the effect that women are not tired any more for all daily tasks.** All supported with statements from women on our website.

### Stem Cell Activator

**Stem Cells** activated from our own bone marrow spread all over the body to heal injuries, break or other pain, and rejuvenate our skin all over the body and especially in the face. Women that are in their 40's and older who have been told by their doctors that they were too old for facelift surgery were surprised that it visibly improved their facial skin better than creams. ■ In a few weeks I noticed a huge difference in the appearance of my skin, as some areas and creases were diminishing, slowing the time needed glow to my face. Caroline Davis, Potomac, MD  
■ Friends remarked that I don't have the deep lines in my face! The stem cells have made a great benefit for all internal organs.  
I feel young and full of vitality. Diane Perreault, 62, Trois-Rivières, QC  
■ President's statement: I've been taking ASG for years. It still enjoy working full-time. Inwardly, in my mind, I feel like I'm giving myself a facelift, people comment that I look like I'm 10 years younger.

### Frequent bathroom trips?

**Prostate Eeze Flow Tea**  
Within 3-5 days most men can lead a normal life again. Stops dribbling, burning and rushing frequently to the bathroom. Get up once a night or not at all. If you are considering surgery, try the tea first.

■ **Best product on the market.** I had 100% relief. I don't have to get up anymore during the night. My sex life has changed completely. I'm a new man today. Thanks a million times to Kenner. Thornhill, DN. ■ **After the first PSA went down to 4.5, after the second the third year it went to 2.3.** I highly swear Thomas M. Thustson, Forsyth.

### Vision Day & Night

■ **For people that experience vision loss because of age or lack of nutrients.** When your eyes get tired, for reading and for night vision when driving. ■ **When I'm driving at night,** lights are clearer and not blurry anymore. Everything is sharper and I'm a more confident driver. Sandy Douglas, 70, Winnabeg, MB ■ **I'm a diabetic** suffering with pain and bloodshot eyes. I started to use Bait Vision and have noticeably improved vision in both eyes for which I'm grateful. Simon Dupuis, 47, Actonville QC

## Gout Relief

**Relieve Gout by Naturally Lowering Uric Acid Levels.** • Addresses the root cause of gout and provides quick relief. • Anti-inflammatory, antirheumatic and antibacterial properties. • Dikary anthocyanin pigments from black cherry have preventative and therapeutic effects on diseases. • Contains active phytochemicals to relieve pain and improve joint flexibility. • **Could not sleep because of my gout.** Pain flared as high as my knees. The health food store clerk recommended Best Gout Relief. My life is now back to normal and I can sleep without pain again. Leonard A. LeBlanc, D.S., Marquette, NS.



#03 NPN 80057870

### Hair Formula for Men and Women

**As I am no longer stressed out over hair loss.** Thanks to your amazing Hair Formula for Men and Women <sup>®</sup>! After four days I noticed how wonderful and hydrated my scalp was. After 8 days, my hair loss stopped. Now hair that is growing back is stronger, shinier and healthier. Recommended it to many people Valerie Duke, 53, Angus, D.N. ■

**The #77 has filled the crown of my thinning head with thick growing hair on my entire head!** Believe it or not, it also slowed down the graying. I wasn't. In the past, I wasted my money on products that did not work. Richard



**#77 MPN 00061551**

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### ***Kidney function***


**My own kidney function increased** from 45% to 61%, within two months established by blood tests by drinking the Bell Kidney Cleanse & Function Tea.  
**#76.** Nick Jersch, President, **Musui Sino School of Medicine, May 2019 Newsletter**, states that there is no conventional medicine to restore kidney function and ISADs are not recommended. Kidney transplant is an option. However, all transplants require life long rejection drugs that kill the immune defenses against all viruses.  
**Excerpts from our website:** • Kidney 2-3 c/mo. • My kidney function went from 29 to 61%  
• Passed three small stones after drinking Kidney Tea  
• On our website, you testimonials with names of people and to want more information

## Supreme Immune Booster

[illegible]

## High Blood Pressure

**High blood pressure** is called the **silent killer**. With this natural medicine many people can get it in the blood range of 120/80. Dr C. Hammond M.D., PhD recommends this effective product with rich peptides and herbs. **True success stories:** **#1** was on **3 blood pressure drugs**. That did not work. After starting **Blood Pressure Formula** my readings are generally well below 120/80. **Done A Driver's 75 Sciles BC** **#2** **At work my arthritic medical test** was too high at 170/103. After taking **Blood Pressure** #25 for a few days, my BP went down to 128/84, which I allowed me to pass my work medical. **Kids Go to Windows ON**



**#25 NPN 00083521**

**Natural health products gently address the root causes of health issues, unlike medications that only address the symptoms, often with harsh side effects.**

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We believe most people can improve or overcome their ailments, if they try. All products have NPN licenses. All are guaranteed. To ensure this product is right for you, please read the label.

## ARTHRITIS

[illegible]

## Remembering and IO

helps to enhance memory and focus. Actual results by people: **"I imagine how frustrating it is for someone with a memory deficit to have to concentrate and remember something that happened yesterday. Now that I use your Brain Function #3, I seem to be back to normal. I can concentrate and recall my outstanding memory loss of any kind."** Dr. Glenn A. Gaudy PhD, 55, Nashville, TN

**"As a student, I was stressed out and couldn't concentrate. I started taking Brain Function #3 and a year ago when I had trouble remembering things for a course. Things changed drastically and I was able to concentrate and recall better than ever before. Exams were 95% correct."** Thomas Williamson, 31, Toronto, ON

**"I bought the Brain Function for my grandson, who has dementia. He has been taking it for 3 months and he is doing very well. He is sharp and alert, single again and remembers all the news. Instead of sleeping pills he is drinking The Best Sleep & Relax Tea #2 and he is not groggy anymore in the morning. She is happy and healthy."** We all great! Wendy Simpson, 55, Chicago, IL

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# Big Brothers Big Sisters of Niagara need superheroes

SARAH FERGUSON  
Fort Erie Times

Superheroes are needed for the Bowl for Kids' Sake campaign.

Big Brothers Big Sisters will host its annual campaign on March 12 at Carroll's Bowling Lanes, at 7 Klauck St. This year's theme is Superheroes and everyone is encouraged to dress up while supporting the event.

There will be two time slots available for teams of four to six players to participate. The first time slot will be at 4:30 p.m. and a second slot at 7 p.m.

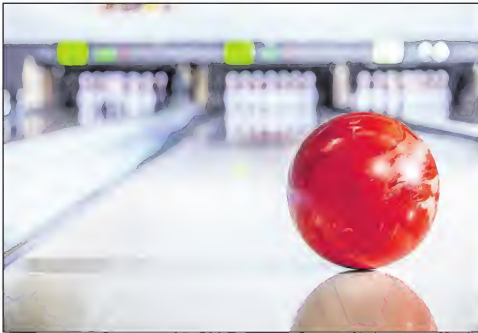
Teams must raise a minimum of \$200 to participate.

This year's honorary campaign chair is Richard Dalton, a multiple bronze and silver medalist in the world championship canoe sprint, who said he was "instantly on board" with helping to lead the campaign.

"Working with kids today creates good, hard-working citizens tomorrow," he said.

"This is an integral fundraiser for us," said Barb Van Der Heyden, executive director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Niagara.

With help from the community, Van Der Heyden



is hopeful the agency will reach its \$60,000 goal to help sustain services, and reduce the waiting list for people waiting to receive support from Big Brothers Big Sisters.

"We still have a significant waiting list of over 100 children in Fort Erie and throughout South Niagara."

That's on top of the average of more than 700 youth Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Niagara already serves on an annual basis.

"We really want people to be a superhero in the Fort Erie community," Van Der Heyden said.

"It's all about ending the

wait. Every person and team that raises funds will help us work towards that goal."

Business owners are also encouraged to get involved by sponsoring a team for their employees.

Van Der Heyden said the event isn't about being the top bowler, it's about "having a good time and raising

funds for a good cause."

The proceeds raised from Bowl for Kids' Sake support the traditional Big Brother Big Sister match program, as well as in-school mentoring program and "It's all about coming together and helping support mentorship in our community," Van Der Hey-

den said.

Van Der Heyden said a recent study showed that for every dollar invested in "littles" there's a return of \$18 to society when they grow up.

She said the support the Big Brothers Big Sisters program receives provides a positive influence on the children who receive support.

Ward 2 Coun. Stephen Passero who serves on the Big Brothers Big Sisters board of directors, along with Darlene Hazlett, has been a long time participant in the event.

Passero said he is "pleased to be involved in the coordination efforts this year" and he is hoping to register as many teams as possible, as well as secure some corporate sponsorships for the event. "I am appealing to my friends and colleagues to get in touch with me and help support a great organization that is doing positive things for the youth in our community," Passero said.

For more information on Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Niagara, its programs, or to register for the Bowl for Kids Sake, visit [www.bbbsin Niagara.ca](http://www.bbbsin Niagara.ca) or call the agency at 905-871-8836.

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# Aerosol cans, antifreeze, corrosive cleaners are accepted

CONTINUED FROM >  
PAGE 21

Habermehl said it's important that people do bring in their household hazardous waste for proper disposal — items such as aerosol cans containing hazardous substances, antifreeze, batteries, propane barbecue tanks, corrosive cleaners, fertilizers, paint and gaso-

line, among others — for environmental and economic reasons.

"These are hazardous materials, they contain volatile chemicals and if they are disposed improperly there could be potential harm to the collector, if they get into the blue bin potential harm to the people working on the sorting line," Habermehl said.

Improper disposal of

household hazardous waste in drains, sewers, lawns and landfill sites is illegal under a region waste management bylaw.

The Humberstone hazardous waste depot is open Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturdays and statutory holidays 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information visit [www.niagararegion.ca/waste](http://www.niagararegion.ca/waste).

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**COVER ALL THE MAJOR SUBJECTS**

# Guns, drugs, art seized at border crossings

ALISON LANGLEY  
Postmedia Network

Border officers seized more guns in southern Ontario in the last half of 2015 than anywhere else in Canada.

According to a press release issued last Tuesday, the Canada Border Services Agency seized 163 guns and 348 prohibited weapons in its Southern Ontario Region during that time frame.

On July 21, for example, four handguns and an assault rifle were seized from a Toronto resident at the Rainbow Bridge.

All told, 28 firearms and 32 prohibited weapons were seized at the Rainbow Bridge.

More than 30 firearms and 105 prohibited weapons were seized the Peace Bridge in Fort Erie in the last half of 2015 and border officers at the Queen-

ston-Lewiston Bridge seized 11 firearms and 15 prohibited weapons.

"Our officers work diligently to protect the safety and security of Canadians," Rick Comerford, regional director general of CBSA's Southern Ontario Region, said in the release.

Border agents at the Queenston-Lewiston Bridge in October 2015 seized undeclared porcelain originating from China with a value of more than \$31,000, and undervalued paintings valued at \$44,654 were also seized in October.

The CBSA's Southern Ontario Region, which includes Niagara Falls, Fort Erie, London and Windsor, seized more than \$100,000 worth of undeclared art and china and \$1.8 million in cash.

There were also five jewelry seizures at the Queenston-Lewiston bridge

including one in November 2015 where jewelry with a declared value of \$3,200 was determined to have an actual value of \$12,400.

Officers made 678 drug seizures in the last half of 2015, including 26 cocaine seizures totalling nearly 84 kilograms.

Border officers at the Peace Bridge searched a bus from Texas in October and discovered 5.7 kilograms of cocaine inside a false compartment in a piece of unclaimed luggage. The case remains under investigation and there have been no arrests.

All told, officers made 140 tobacco seizures, 321 alcohol seizures and seized improperly declared vehicles worth more than \$539,000.

alison.langley@sunmedia.ca  
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## WANTED

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Participants will be given a FREE in-office demonstration, as well as the opportunity to evaluate and report their experience wearing the latest, most advanced hearing aid technology for 30 days. A full range of styles are available in this new technology, including the exceptionally discreet open-fit and invisible-in-the-canal models shown here:



Similar to choosing between contact lenses or glasses, you can decide with your hearing professional which hearing aid style would best suit you. Both styles have approximately the same performance and functions, but are fitted to the ear differently.

It's almost a shame this technology isn't more visible!

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**CALL NOW - Candidates are being selected.**

The selection process for this test period will end March 31, 2016.

- Fort Erie | 238 Bertie Road | Call Nancy at 1-888-470-0087
- Grimsby | 63 Main Street West | Call Jessica at 1-888-481-4250
- Niagara Falls | 4025 Dorchester Road | Call Alysa at 1-888-550-9486
- St. Catharines | 215-245 Pelham Road | Call Elena at 1-888-694-9371
- Welland | 154 West Main Street | Call Cassie at 1-888-810-0782

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## Brief

### Region wants public to weigh in on long-term care homes

Niagara Region is gathering public input regarding redevelopment of its long-term care homes.

Plans are being developed to replace three of the Region's eight long-term care facilities that do not comply with new provincial building standards, including Gilmore Lodge in Fort Erie, Upper Canada Lodge in Niagara-on-the-Lake and Linhaven in St. Catharines.

To gather information about Niagara residents' priorities and preferences

for how and where long-term care services are delivered, a telephone survey began Tuesday.

Conducted by public opinion research firm Pollara, the survey will run until the end of the month. The company will also conduct a series of focus groups.

A similar online survey, open to anyone interested in participating, will be available at [niagararegion.ca](http://niagararegion.ca) by the end of next week.

Public input will be used to assist the Region's long-term care redevelopment task force

as it develops options for replacing the three facilities.

The surveys and focus groups will build on consultations that regional staff and task force members have been undertaking with other service providers, community partners and stakeholders.

Results of the research will assist in development of service delivery options, including potential partnerships with private or not-for-profit organizations to deliver a range of on-site services.

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# Canada Games bid pondered for Niagara

KARENIA WALTER  
postmedia network

Proponents of a Niagara 2021 Canada Summer Games bid say the event could bring \$85 million to \$100 million to the region in investment and spending.

Niagara Sport Commission members are in Toronto last Wednesday for the launch of the Canada Games Council bidding process to learn about requirements and timelines.

The commission is investigating what it would take to make a regional bid application to host the largest multi-sport event in Canada.

"I think Niagara is primed for something like this," said commission CEO Bram Cotton last Wednesday.

"My hope is that we can get the mayors and the regional politicians to stand up and say 'You know what, we want the games. It's our time.'"

St. Catharines city council unanimously supported a Niagara bid in principle last Monday after a presentation by the not-for-profit organization and a report by city staff.

The commission will be visiting Niagara Falls and Welland councils soon and the regional government on Feb. 25 for support.

Held every four years, the summer games could see an estimated 4,600 athletes, coaches and managers from 17 sports converge in Niagara for a 16-day event.

Ontario is confirmed to host the 2021 games — and this time in the province — and it

will be up to individual regions or municipalities to make their cases.

St. Catharines Mayor Walter Sendzik attended the meeting in Toronto Wednesday and said when looking at what it takes to pull off the games and how expensive it is, he thinks Niagara could crack the top three places to stage it.

"I think it's right within our wheelhouse as a region to do this," he said, adding Niagara can check off the boxes on what it can offer, whether boating on Lake Ontario and Lake Erie to cycling through Short Hills.

He said it costs about \$30 million to put on the games, with \$10.3 million from the province, a similar amount from the federal government and the rest expected from sponsorships and ticket sales.

Sendzik said he reviewed the past few games and the infrastructure and sport legacy is impressive. Unlike larger events like the Olympics, he said the Canada Games don't lose money and communities have made additional dollars back.

Cotton said the last summer games in Sherbrooke in 2013 left a \$510,000 surplus and \$2 million in a financial legacy fund. The games in PEI in 2009 had a \$3.3-million surplus.

It's not known how many Ontario areas will make bids, but a regional sport tourism office in Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo and Guelph has expressed interest publicly.

Cotton estimated Niagara



PAUL CHASSON/CANADIAN PRESS FILE PHOTO

Sprint phenom Andre De Grasse, second from right, takes his start to go on to win the gold medal in the men's 100 metre at the Canada Games on Aug. 15, 2013, in Sherbrooke, Que.

has about 85 per cent of the infrastructure and venues necessary to host the games and is in a better position than many places.

"We're proposing a Niagara region-wide bid because it would probably be very difficult for St. Catharines or Welland or Niagara Falls on their own. It's very involved, very complex," Cotton said. "There will be many municipalities that will kick the tires and look but they're not going to meet some of the basic technical requirements."

Continued on Page 32

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PIERRE-YVES CARBONNELL-VALLEE/POSTMEDIA NETWORK FILE PHOTO

The gold medal women's volleyball match between Alberta and British Columbia at the Canada Games in August 2013.

## Letter of intent to host event is due May 20

Niagara's biggest deficit is a stadium for track and field events that would also serve as the site of opening and closing ceremonies.

That's not a "make or break," Cotton said, explaining there are other track and field facilities Niagara could make due with. But a new facility would be a great legacy piece for generations to use, he said.

Niagara could also use more 50-metre pools and a dive tank.

Cotton said there's an opportunity for infrastructure money through the event to build or upgrade facilities.

The commission's plan is to hold events in as many Niagara municipalities as possible, while doing what's most beneficial for the athletes to compete at a high level, he said.

While St. Catharines would be the obvious choice for rowing and Welland for flatwater events, other sports such as beach volleyball, baseball and soccer have multiple options for locations. Sports such as cycling and triathlon would cross more than one municipal

border.

"Those decisions happen much farther down the road from where we're at right now," Cotton said. "For us, the big thing is how do we get Niagara to agree we need to be in the game, and once we're in the game we can have those wider, larger types of discussions."

If Niagara Sport Commission does move forward with the bidding process, a letter of intent is due on May 20. The bid fee is about \$30,000, Cotton said.

In July the Canada Games Council will complete site visits and do preliminary bid evaluations. It short-lists eligible bid cities in August. Comprehensive bids and evaluations would happen in the new year with a winning bid announced in April 2017, the year the games will be held in Winnipeg.

Niagara Sport Commission has just come off a successful venture with the 2016 IIHF Under-18 Women's World Championship in St. Catharines, which broke the event's ticket sales.

[harena.walter@sunmedica.ca](mailto:harena.walter@sunmedica.ca)



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POSTMEDIA NETWORK

The Niagara Parks Commission is looking for local bands to play this year's Coca-Cola Concert Series.

## NPC looking for bands for summer concert series

POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Wanted: Bands to keep Niagara Falls' Queen Victoria Park hopping all summer.

Niagara Parks Commission is putting the call out for local musicians to perform during its Coca-Cola Concert series every weekend, running from Victoria Day long weekend to Labour Day.

Shows will be held nights Fridays,

Sundays and holidays from 8 to 10.

Organizers prefer classic rock, country R&B or a combination thereof.

Each show will be followed by fireworks.

Bands can apply through the Niagara Parks website. Applications must be received by Feb. 26, 5 p.m. Additional dates may be added to the schedule at the discretion of the NPC.

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## Silver medalist



SUBMITTED PHOTO: SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

Fort Erie Skating Club, STARskater, Ashley Backshall skated to a silver medal in her STAR 5 flight at Dennis Silverthorne Memorial Competition, in St. Thomas on Feb 7. She will compete next at the Skate Canada Western Ontario STARskate Championships in Sarnia on Feb. 26.

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JOSEPH BIRRO/SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES  
The Fort Erie Meteors defeated Ancaster Avalanche 6-2 Monday afternoon at the Fort Erie Leisureplex. The victory is the seventh straight win for the Meteors. See page 38 for the story.

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### Brick for municipal tax increase

To the staff and councillors of the Town of Fort Erie, a bouquet of stinkweed for increasing water rates by 4.74 percent and increasing the overall property tax rate by 2.69 percent for it's residents for 2016. Thank goodness that the regional staff and councillors worked hard on keeping the regional rates at zero, otherwise our overall tax rate would have increased by 7.14 percent! As the senior population of Fort Erie increases and the influx of retirees move into our beautiful town, it becomes difficult to manage these tax increases as most of us are on fixed incomes especially in the light of virtually zero inflation.

Please consider this demograph-

ic next time around. Thank you.

### Bouquet for homeowners

A bouquet for homeowners who store their garbage and recycle bins from street view.

**Brick for pet owners who don't have animals spayed or neutered**

A brick for people who don't have their cats and dogs spayed and neutered. There are so many animals that run wild in the streets, or live in shelters. These animals need to have homes. If you can't be responsible enough to take care of your pet than you don't deserve to have one. Please, take care of your animals.

### Bouquet for a neighbour

A bouquet for my neighbour. He shovelled my driveway for me so I could get my car out of the snow. I am a senior and it's difficult to clear my driveway myself. I appreciated my neighbour's help so thank you!

### Brick for a dog owner

A brick for person that let their dog poop on my lawn. What is wrong with you? How would you like it if I scooped all your dog's poop and saved it and then bring the big pile of poop and dump it on your lawn?

### Send us your bricks and bouquets

Has someone done something nice for you and you would like to thank them? Do you have something to complain about? Send us your bricks and bouquets by e-mail to sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca, or drop them off to Fort Erie Times; 336 Central Avenue; Fort Erie, Ont., L2A 3T6.

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JOSEPH BURD/SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

The Fort Erie Meteors defeated the St. Catharines Falcons 7-5 Saturday night at the Fort Erie Leisureplex.

# Meteors win seventh game in a row

SARAH FERGUSON  
Fort Erie Times

The Fort Erie Meteors didn't have much time to rest on Family Day but the team celebrated the holiday by winning its seventh game in a row.

Fort Erie's Junior B team hit the ice on Monday to host the Ancaster Avalanche, winning 6-2.

The victory improves the team's record to 23-20-1 in the Greater Ontario Junior Hockey League Golden Horseshoe Conference.

Assistant coach Craig Slack said the Meteors "played a pretty solid team game."

"The players are starting to buy in to working hard and the effort is paying off."

Forward Daniel Singer scored a hat trick for the Meteors. His second goal of the night was "a lucky shot" that "shot off the glass and took a lucky bounce in the net."

Singer said his team "played a pretty solid game."

"We were scoring and I had a lot of good passes from (his team mates)."

Holden Garlent scored two goals and Anthony Passero scored a single goal for Fort Erie.

Ben Hughes and Jesse Hilton scored singles for Ancaster.

Brayden Lachance recorded 29 saves for Fort Erie. Cole Cole recorded 21 saves for Ancaster.

The Avalanche incurred 24 minutes of penalty time on

eight infractions while the Meteors spent 11 minutes in the penalty box on five infractions.

## Fort Erie 7, Falcons 5

Fort Erie's junior B team defeated the St. Catharines Falcons 7-5 on Saturday at the Fort Erie Leisureplex.

On Saturday, head coach Rob Hubbert said the Meteors have been playing "really good hockey."

"During the first and third period, I thought we capitalized on our chances. We were tenacious on the puck," Hubbert said about Saturday's game against St. Catharines.

"We let in a goal in the last part of the game. It should have been 7-4. But (St. Catharines) was undisciplined and we capitalized on their chances."

Daniel Singer, Holden Garlent, Anthony Passero, Ben Evans scored points for the Meteors.

Justin Felker, Jake Evans, Anthony Postiglione and Brandon Corcone scored points for St. Catharines.

Fort Erie incurred eight minutes of penalty time on four infractions. St. Catharines incurred 36 minutes on 12 infractions.

Riley Daniels made 31 saves for Fort Erie, and Joel Horodziejczyk made 24 saves for St. Catharines.

Fort Erie will host Caledonia at the Fort Erie Leisureplex on Saturday. Game time is 7:15 p.m.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca



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Miscellaneous

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Patricia Ann Beam  
ALL PERSONS having claims against the Estate of Patricia Ann Beam, late of Fort Erie, Ontario, deceased who died on or about October 29, 2015, are hereby notified to send full particulars of the claim to the undersigned solicitors for the Executors on or before February 25, 2016, after which date the estate shall be distributed having regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice.  
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Obituaries Obituaries

Obituaries

Obituaries

**MATTHEWS, Franklin** - Franklin passed away at the Crescent Park Lodge on Friday February 12th, 2016 at the age of 61. Beloved husband of the late Gloria. Loving father of Lynda (The late Donald) Dubuc, Lynn (Rick) Reaman, Kathy (Ervin) Smith, Cindy Matthews, Frank Matthews, Mikal (Melissa) Matthews and Liz (Ken) Broughton. He will be sadly missed by his grandchildren and great grandchildren. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES** 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. Cremation has taken place. The family received friends on Wednesday February 17th from 10 am until the time of service in the Chapel at 11 o'clock. Interment to follow in Greenwood Cemetery. If so desired, donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family.

**McMILLAN, Agnes** - Agnes passed away at the Crescent Park Lodge on Thursday February 11th, 2016 at the age of 88. Beloved wife of the late David. Proud mother of Fiona (Robert) Mercer. Cherished grandmother of Caitlin (Kevin) Mercer and Ian (Cassie) Mercer. Loving great grandmother of Matthew and Jaxson. Agnes was a life member of the Douglas Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave., entrusted with private family arrangements. If so desired, donations to the SPCA or the Douglas Memorial Hospital Auxiliary would be appreciated by the family.

**MORLOG, Joseph** - It is with great sadness that the family of Joseph Morlog announce his sudden passing on February 11, 2016. Born November 4, 1926. Joe married his wife, Wilhelmina on February 14th, 1953. They emigrated together from Holland to Canada in March of that year. Joe is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, their three sons, Barry and his wife Elizabeth (Dundas, ON), Murray (Fort Erie, ON), and Rick (Haltifax, NS); grandchildren David and Katherine and their spouses Charetina and Steven. Joe is also survived by brothers and sisters, Hank, Gerla, Cora, Jim, and Gert (all of Chatham, ON), and their extended families. Joe was a selfless volunteer and member of many organizations in Fort Erie. He will be dearly missed by the Knights of Columbus, the Royal Canadian Legion, Saint Vincent DePaul Society, the Town of Fort Erie Seniors Advisory Board, the 96ers Card Club and the Riverside Card Club. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Road, Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. Visitation was on Monday February 15th 2 - 4 p.m. and on Tuesday February 16th, 11:00 a.m. at St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church, 310 Central Ave., Fort Erie. Interment at St. Joseph's Cemetery, Garrison Road, Fort Erie. Vigil prayers in the Funeral Home on Monday at 3:30. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 71 Veterans' Poppy Fund, or the Saint Vincent DePaul Society, would be greatly appreciated.

**SCHERER, Dagmar Anna Maria** - Tragically passed away on Saturday February 13th, 2016 in Ridgeway. Survived by her husband Josef, her daughter Bettina Kinsler, her son Gordon Kinsler, her stepchildren Lui and Steve Scherer and her grandchildren Isabella Kinsler, Addison and Ashlyn Kinsler and Kate and Samantha Scherer. Dagmar will be loved and missed by all friends. **WILLIAMS FUNERAL SERVICES**, 722 Ridge Road N, Ridgeway entrusted with funeral arrangements. Cremation has taken place and a memorial service will be held in the chapel on Monday February 22nd, 2016 at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers those who wish may donate to the Canadian Liver Foundation or to the Crohns and Colitis Canada.

#### CURTIS

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## QUOTE UNQUOTE

"I just feel like people are always too cool to ask for help trying to impress each other at dinner parties. I want to help the world and I need help to do it. I am an artist and I care about humanity." — **Kanye West** considers himself a service to the world, but only when he's funded by other people's cash.



## Star Wars: Episode VIII begins filming

**Laura Dern** and Benicio Del Toro have joined the cast of *Star Wars: Episode VIII*, Disney confirmed on Monday.

The studio also announced that newcomer Kelly Marie Tran have joined the cast of *Star Wars: Episode VIII*, Disney confirmed on Monday.

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—Variety

The always bizarre Kanye West says he's \$53 million in debt and wants Mark Zuckerberg's help

## BROTHER, CAN YOU SPARE A DIME?

Rapper and fashion designer **Kanye West**, who says he is \$53 million in debt, has asked Facebook Inc.'s Chief Executive Officer Mark Zuckerberg to invest \$1 billion into his "ideas."

West asked his Twitter followers to urge Zuckerberg to support him. "World, please tweet, FaceTime, Facebook, Instagram, whatever you gotta do to get Mark to support me..." West tweeted. The rapper also asked Alphabet Inc. CEO Larry Page to help him with his financial troubles. The 38-year-old West made the claim on Twitter shortly before his highly-anticipated album *The Life of Pablo* premiered exclusively on Tidal and his website.

"I write this to you my brothers while still \$3 million dollars in personal debt," he tweeted. "Please pay me over time... This is my true heart."

Tidal, the Jay-Z backed streaming service, recently paid Rihanna an undisclosed fee for her latest album. And, though the February release was bungled when someone inside her camp leaked it online, Samsung reportedly paid \$25 million to be a part of the campaign.

West, who's married to reality TV star Kim Kardashian, has been putting tens of millions into his fashion label. According to *Business Insider*, his latest clothing line is selling high-end coats and jackets for as much as \$3,000 to \$4,000. The Kanye sweatpants alone cost \$510.

In a 2015 interview with BET, the controversial rapper said he incurred \$16 million in debt from his fashion business. "I was trying to play a sport that's a billionaire sport. It's not a millionaire sport and I'm proud of the debt," he boasted.

West asked Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg to invest \$1 billion in his ideas because he is "the greatest living artist and the greatest artist of all time."

—Variety

## CELEBRITY TRANSACTIONS

### Deadpool dominates holiday weekend

**Ryan Reynolds'** irreverent *Deadpool* has dominated the holiday box office with an astounding \$150 million. *Deadpool* more than doubled last week's forecasts that had ranged between \$60 million and \$70 million. It's one of the biggest surprise blockbusters within recent memory.

The total for *Deadpool* easily surpasses the previous holiday weekend and February record holder, *Fifty Shades of Grey*, which dazzled the industry a year ago with its \$93 million debut. It also took in seven times the total of Warner Bros.' *How to Be Single* — which was launched to capitalize on Valentine's Day and brought in a moderate \$20.6 million from 3,343 locations.

—Variety

### The Revenant dominates BAFTA awards

Alejandro G. Iñárritu's *The Revenant* came up big at the 69th British Academy Film Awards on Sunday night, nabbing five prizes including best film, director and leading actor. The glitterati were in full force at London's Royal Opera House on Valentine's Day. *The Revenant* won the Best Film prize while **Leonardo DiCaprio's** win for best actor at the film was met with a resounding cheer in the audience.

It marked the star's first BAFTA win after four noms (he was previously nominated for work on *Martin Scorsese's The Wolf of Wall Street*, *The Departed* and *The Aviator*).

—Variety

### Chevil back on?

**Avril Lavigne** and **Chad Kroeger** have sparked reconciliation rumours. The couple announced their separation in September after two years of marriage.

However, they certainly looked cozy as they arrived at Clive Davis and The Recording Academy's 2015 Pre-Grammy Gala arm in arm. Avril also furthered the speculation by posting several pictures of herself and Chad on her Instagram page. "Grammy Party .... Feeling great. Lovely night," she captioned one snap.

Neither Avril nor Chad wore their wedding rings though... —WENN

## Police union chief: Beyonce should focus on black-on-black crime

A leading police union chief in New York has slammed **Beyonce** for her controversial Super Bowl performance and warned her to highlight the rate of 'black-on-black' murders if she wants to tackle gun crime. The *Crazy in Love* singer shocked viewers during her halftime gig on Feb. 7 when she appeared to give a 'black power' salute in front of a team of dancers wearing leather outfits similar to the uniform of the Black Panthers. She added to the furor by referencing police brutality and recent police shootings in the U.S. in the video for her new song, *Formation*, but the leader of the *Detectives' Endowment* Association in New York has blasted the star for her stance. Michael Palladino, the organization's president, told John Catsimatidis's U.S. radio show that Beyonce's singer is misplaced, saying, "She should direct her message where it's needed most, and that's in the hood, because that's where it all takes place. So if the Black Lives Matter movement really wants to make a difference, they should pour the medicine directly on the wound."

—WENN

## Stephen Fry quits Twitter over bag lady joke



British comics are known for their biting humor, but BAFTA host **Stephen Fry** went a little too far in some peoples' eyes when he called Oscar-winning costume designer Jenny Beavan a "bag lady" during the awards show.

Beavan had exited the stage after winning the costume design award for *Mad Max: Fury Road* when Fry quipped, "Only one of the great cinematic costume designers would come to an awards ceremony dressed as a 'bag lady'."

Although he had attempted to explain that he and the 10-time Oscar nominated designer were friends and that she was in on the joke, he grew frustrated, tweeting, "Will all you sanctimonious f—ers f— the f— off. Jenny Beavan is a friend and joshing is legitimate. Christ I want to leave the planet."

He attempted to undo the damage by tweeting a photo of himself with Beavan at the afterparty, but Fry was so ticked off at the volume of tweets and comments calling him misogynistic and mean that he deleted his Twitter account, writing on his website that the social media site is "a stalking ground for the sanctimoniously self-righteous" and observing, "If you don't watch yourself, with every move you'll end up being gashed, broken, bruised or confused." Apparently he finds ditching it out easier than taking it, as he's pulled the deleting stunt several times in the past, only to later restore his account.

—Variety



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